AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. **(Currently amended)** A method for the separation and purification of fibrinogen and plasminogen ~~at least one other protein~~ which comprises the steps of:

(a) loading a solution comprising fibrinogen and plasminogen ~~at least one other protein~~ onto an immobilized metal ion affinity chromatography matrix under conditions such that the fibrinogen and the plasminogen ~~at least one other protein~~ both bind to the matrix, and

(b) selectively eluting the fibrinogen and the plasminogen ~~at least one other protein~~ separately from the matrix.

2. **(Canceled)**

3. **(Previously presented)** A method for the separation of fibrinogen from plasminogen comprising the steps of:

(a) loading a solution comprising fibrinogen and plasminogen onto an immobilized metal ion affinity chromatography matrix under conditions such that at least the fibrinogen binds to the matrix, and

(b) selectively eluting the fibrinogen from the matrix.

4. **(Previously presented)** The method according to claim 3, wherein the plasminogen and the fibrinogen are selectively eluted separately from the matrix.

5. **(Previously presented)** The method according to claim 1 or 3, wherein the solution comprising fibrinogen is a fibrinogen-containing plasma fraction.

6.-10. **(Canceled)**

11. **(Currently amended)** Fibrinogen prepared by a method according to ~~any of~~ claims 1 or ~~,~~3 ~~or 7~~.

12.-15. **(Canceled)**

16. **(Withdrawn)** A lyophilized fibrinogen formulation comprising fibrinogen of Claim 11, factor XIII, a carbohydrate, an amino acid, a salt, a buffer and a detergent, the formulation being capable of dissolution in water at ambient temperature in less than 15 minutes to give a fibrinogen solution.

17. **(Withdrawn)** The formulation according to claim 16, wherein the concentration of the fibrinogen solution is at least about 60 mg/ml.

18. **(Withdrawn)** The formulation according to claim 16, which is heat treated to inactivate viruses.

19. **(Withdrawn)** The formulation according to claim 16, which is free from anti-fibrinolytic agents.

20. **(Withdrawn)** The formulation according to claim 16, which is free from stabilizing proteins such as albumin.

21. **(Canceled)**

22. **(Withdrawn)** The lyophilized fibrinogen formulation of Claim 16, wherein the formulation being capable of dissolution in water at ambient temperature in less than 10 minutes to give a fibrinogen solution.

23. **(Withdrawn)** The lyophilized fibrinogen formulation of Claim 16, wherein the formulation being capable of dissolution in water at ambient temperature in less than 5 minutes to give a fibrinogen solution.

24. **(Currently amended)** The method of Claim 1 or ~~, 3 or 7~~ further comprising the step of concentrating the fibrinogen by ultrafiltration to a concentration of approximately 15 to 30 mg/ml.

25. **(Previously presented)** The method of Claim 24 further comprising the steps of:

combining the fibrinogen with a combination of suitable stabilizers to form a fibrinogen formulation;

sterilizing the fibrinogen formulation by filtration; and

lyophilizing the fibrinogen formulation to form a lyophilized fibrinogen formulation.

26. **(Previously presented)** The method of Claim 25, wherein the stabilizers are selected from the group consisting of an amino acid, a carbohydrate, a salt, and a detergent.

27. **(Previously presented)** The method of Claim 25 further comprising the step of subjecting the lyophilized fibrinogen formulation to dry heat treatment.